#1

"#TAKE BACK THE SHIELD" STARTS NOW

SPENCER
RENAUD
RAUCH

#TAKE BACK THE SHIELD

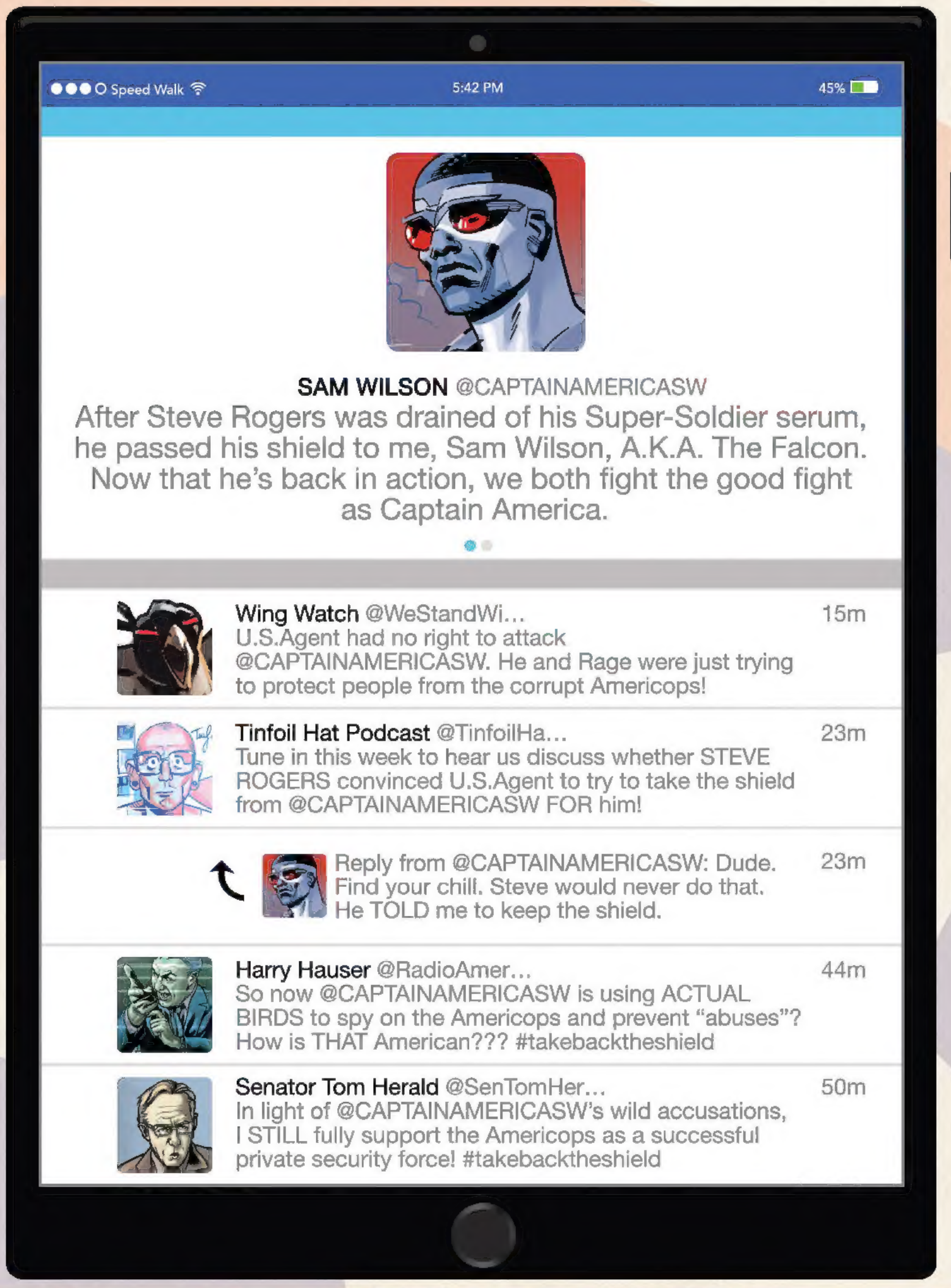
Sam★Wilson

Captain America®

#14

MARVEL

BREAKING NEWS
CAPTAIN AMERICA TANGLES WITH U.S.AGENT AND AMERICOPS
to the controversy... OTHER NEWS: Senator Tom Herald voices support for U.S.Agent's actions in Brooklyn
5:42 PM EST
LIVE
SHN


Speed Walk
5:42 PM
45%
SAM WILSON @CAPTAINAMERICASW
After Steve Rogers was drained of his Super-Soldier serum, he passed his shield to me, Sam Wilson, A.K.A. The Falcon. Now that he's back in action, we both fight the good fight as Captain America.
Wing Watch @WeStandWi... 15m
U.S.Agent had no right to attack @CAPTAINAMERICASW. He and Rage were just trying to protect people from the corrupt Americops!
Tinfoil Hat Podcast @TinfoilHa... 23m
Tune in this week to hear us discuss whether STEVE ROGERS convinced U.S.Agent to try to take the shield from @CAPTAINAMERICASW FOR him!
Reply from @CAPTAINAMERICASW: Dude. Find your chill. Steve would never do that. He TOLD me to keep the shield. 23m
Harry Hauser @RadioAmer... 44m
So now @CAPTAINAMERICASW is using ACTUAL BIRDS to spy on the Americops and prevent "abuses"? How is THAT American??? #takebacktheshield
Senator Tom Herald @SenTomHer... 50m
In light of @CAPTAINAMERICASW's wild accusations, I STILL fully support the Americops as a successful private security force! #takebacktheshield

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MIDTOWN MANHATTAN.

NOW I MUST ADMIT, AS THE SENATOR FROM TEXAS, I DON'T GET MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO VISIT NEW YORK--

--AND MY WIFE HAS ASKED ME TO PICK UP SOME LOCAL READING WHILE I'M HERE. SO DOES ANYONE KNOW WHERE I CAN GET A COPY OF THE *COMMUNIST MANIFESTO*?

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

BUT I AM ENCOURAGED TO SEE SO MANY HERE TONIGHT, SUPPORTING MY CAMPAIGN...

"...PEOPLE WHO UNDERSTAND THE GRAVE THREATS FACING OUR NATION.

"CRIME.

"TERRORISM.

"ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION."

OUR CONSTITUTION IS BEING TORN APART BY LEFT-WING RADICALS, AND PEOPLE WHO NO LONGER BELIEVE IN THE AMERICAN DREAM.

"MAKE NO MISTAKE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN--

"WE ARE UNDER ATTACK!"

BRAKKA BRAKKA

BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

EVERYONE STAY WHERE YOU ARE!

BRAKKA BRAKKA

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO FLEE!

NO NEED TO *HURRY OUT,* SENATOR--

--YOU *ARE* THE *GUEST OF HONOR,* AFTER ALL.

W-WHOEVER YOU ARE--WE WON'T BE COWED BY TERRORIST THREATS--

OH, THIS ISN'T A *THREAT...*

...IT'S AN *ULTIMATUM.*

OKAY, I'LL ADMIT IT--

--I'M ***HUMAN***. NO SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM COURSING THROUGH THESE VEINS.

AND BEING HUMAN MEANS SOMETIMES HAVING DOUBTS.

THERE ARE TIMES WHEN I WISH I'D NEVER TAKEN THIS JOB.

WHEN I AGREED TO BECOME CAPTAIN AMERICA, I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW MANY FOLKS--FOR WHATEVER REASON--WOULD NEVER ACCEPT ME IN THE ROLE--

HE WINGS

HE DIDN'T SERVE

NOT MY CAPTAIN AMERICA

--OR HOW MANY OPPORTUNISTS WOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT.

#TAKEBACK THESHIELD

LATELY, THINGS HAVE GOTTEN EVEN WORSE--

--AND I'VE TAKEN MORE THAN A FEW ON THE CHIN.

SO YEAH, I HAVE MY BAD DAYS--

--AND I GET THE FEELING THIS ONE'S NOT GONNA BE MUCH BETTER.

WELL, THERE HE IS, RIGHT ON TIME--

AS ***REQUESTED,*** COMMANDER CARTER. YOU KNOW HOW GOOD I AM AT LETTING MY FRIENDS AT S.H.I.E.L.D. DOWN. REPEATEDLY.

GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, SAM.

YOU TOO, SHAR. WISH IT WAS UNDER--

JUST YOU WAIT 'TIL THE ***REAL*** CAP SHOWS UP, TRAITOR!

HE'S GONNA KICK YOUR SORRY ASS AND TAKE BACK THAT SHIELD FOR GOOD, YOU LIAR!

WHAT'D I...? YOU KNOW WHAT? ***FORGET IT.*** I SEE YOU'VE MET MY CHEERING SECTION. HOW DO THEY ALWAYS GET WHERE I'M GOING BEFORE ***I*** DO?

WELL, TO BE FAIR, THEY HAD A LITTLE ***ADVANCE WARNING*** THIS TIME.

DON'T SWEAT THOSE IDIOTS, SAM--

LISTEN, YOUR OLD BUDDY ***RICK JONES*** HERE IS GONNA MAKE ALL YOUR WORRIES GO AWAY.

THIS WHOLE #TAKEBACKTHESHIELD THING THAT'S TRENDING EVERYWHERE? I CAN MAKE THAT ***DISAPPEAR.*** SOME WELL-POSITIONED MALWARE AND WE'RE--

RICK--PLEASE PROMISE YOU ***WILL NOT*** DO THAT.

BUT I OWE YOU MY LIFE!

AND I'M SURE YOU CAN COME UP WITH A ***LEGAL*** WAY TO REPAY ME. NOW, WHERE'S--

THERE HE IS--

CAPTAIN AMERICA

SAM-- I'M SORRY I'M LATE.

HEY, NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE TO *ME, I'M* NOT THE ONE WHO SET THIS DATE.

GOOD EVENING, FELLOW CITIZENS OF THE WORLD--I AM THE **FLAG-SMASHER**, CHAIRMAN OF **ULTIMATUM!** AND I COME TO YOU WITH A MESSAGE OF HOPE.

I HAVE MANAGED TO CAPTURE ONE OF THE GREATEST ENEMIES OF PEACE AND LIBERTY FACING US TODAY--

--BUT I CANNOT DEAL WITH THIS THREAT ALONE. I REQUIRE ASSISTANCE!

SO I AM CALLING UPON YOUR NATION'S HEROES TO **HELP** ME. CAPTAIN AMERICA--**BOTH** OF YOU--I NEED YOUR ASSISTANCE.

SO HOW DO YOU WANT TO DO THIS? YOU WANT TO FLY UP AND HIT THROUGH THE SKYLIGHT, OR DO YOU HAVE SOME ***CLOAK TECH*** FOR A ***STEALTH*** ENTRY?

ACTUALLY--

--I WAS THINKING WE TAKE THE ***ELEVATOR.***

YOU THINK THAT HANDSHAKE WILL HELP YOU WITH THE MEDIA CIRCUS?

YOU KIDDING? BY TOMORROW IT'LL BE A STORY ABOUT HOW I USED A HOSTAGE CRISIS AS A ***P.R. MOMENT*** TO MAKE MYSELF LOOK GOOD.

WELL, AT LEAST YOU WON'T BE ***DISAPPOINTED,*** THEN.

YOU DID HAVE ***SOME*** FANS OUT THERE, THOUGH. I ***SAW*** THEM.

YEAH. NOT ENOUGH TO GET A GAME OF THREE-ON-THREE GOING. YOU KNOW, THEY SAY MY APPROVAL RATING IS THIRTY-NINE PERCENT, BUT IT'S GOTTA BE THE ***QUIETEST*** THIRTY-NINE PERCENT YOU'LL EVER MEET.

WELL, THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH HAVING THE SUPPORT OF ***INTROVERTS***. I DIDN'T HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS GROWING UP MYSELF.

HH--THANK YOU. SO WHAT DO WE THINK THIS FLAG-SMASHER ***WANTS?***

I DON'T KNOW, BUT BASED ON THE GUYS WHO HAVE WORN THAT MASK BEFORE, I THINK YOU SHOULD PREPARE YOURSELF FOR A LONG LECTURE ON THE EVILS OF ***TRADE TARIFFS.***

DING

ON THE ***CONTRARY,*** CAPTAINS--

--I'M ONLY HERE AS A *FRIEND.*

DON'T WORRY, THEY'RE PERFECTLY SAFE. SIMPLY A MEANS TO GET YOUR ATTENTION--YOU WEREN'T RESPONDING TO MY ***E-MAILS,*** AFTER ALL.

NOW, OF COURSE, I UNDERSTAND YOU MIGHT BE ***SKEPTICAL*** OF MY INTENTIONS. THE INITIAL DESIRE TO FIGHT, THAT'S ALWAYS HOW IT IS--

--WHEN HEROES TEAM UP.

UH, SHARON?

YOU MAYBE WANNA SEE THIS...

"THE WORLD IS IN CRISIS."

I'M SURE YOU SEE IT JUST LIKE I DO. THE RISE AND RETURN OF FASCISM.

ALL AROUND US, SPRINGING UP--HERE IN THE UNITED STATES, AND THROUGHOUT EUROPE--MOVEMENTS TO RESTRICT IMMIGRATION, RESTRICT TRADE. NATIONALISM IS ***SURGING.***

AND WE ALL KNOW WHERE THIS ROAD THEY ARE TAKING US DOWN LEADS--ISOLATION. DEPRESSION. WAR.

IT'S TRUE THAT WE HAVE NOT ALWAYS SEEN EYE TO EYE. I BELIEVE IN A SAFER WORLD THROUGH FREE AND UNFETTERED MOVEMENT OF BOTH ***PEOPLE*** AND ***IDEAS***. A WORLD WITHOUT ***BORDERS*** AND ***DIVISION.***

THAT IS ULTIMATUM'S VISION FOR THE FUTURE. ***RADICAL,*** I KNOW--AND A DIFFICULT SELL TO MEN WHO WEAR FLAGS ON THEIR CHESTS. BUT EVEN STILL--

--IT WOULDN'T BE THE ***FIRST*** TIME OPPOSING FORCES JOINED TOGETHER TO FACE A GREATER THREAT. WHY, MR. ROGERS, YOU FOUGHT ALONGSIDE THE SOVIETS AGAINST THIS ***SAME FOE!***

TOGETHER, WE CAN NO DOUBT TAKE THE FIGHT TO THE CORRUPT OPPORTUNISTS EXPLOITING THE FEARS AND PREJUDICES OF THE WORKING CLASS--MEN LIKE YOUR SWORN ENEMY, THE ***RED SKULL,*** OR, FOR THE TIME BEING--

--THIS MAN. ***SENATOR TOM HERALD.***

JUST ANOTHER LYING, PANDERING POLITICIAN MAKING HIMSELF POWERFUL BY FOSTERING ***INTOLERANCE***. HE'S BEEN QUITE CRITICAL OF ***YOU,*** MR. WILSON--BUT IT'S HIS PROPOSALS ON ***MASS DEPORTATION*** AND ***DENYING CLIMATE CHANGE*** THAT TRULY CONCERN ME. WHAT SAY YOU?

I DUNNO. I FEEL LIKE WE'RE NOT DISCUSSING THE ***BOMBS*** ENOUGH.

I AGREE.

-SIGH- I ALREADY ***TOLD*** YOU, THESE PEOPLE ARE PERFECTLY ***SAFE***. MOSTLY JUST FOR SHOW--

"--IT'S MORE ABOUT WHAT THEY *REPRESENT.*"

WHAT *IS* IT, RICK?

WELL, S.H.I.E.L.D. KEEPS TABS ON THE SECURITY NETWORKS FOR A WHOLE BUNCH OF OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES--FBI, CIA, NSA, YOU KNOW, ALL THE ACRONYMS.

SO I SET UP A LITTLE DATABASE OF MY *OWN,* TO KEEP TABS ON HOW WE *KEEP TABS. QUALITY CONTROL.*

ARE YOU *ALLOWED* TO DO THAT?

I'M NOT *NOT* ALLOWED TO DO IT.

FINE. YOUR POINT IS--

JUST--ALL OF SUDDEN, I GOT A BUNCH OF RED FLAGS. NOT *MAJOR* ONES, JUST-- SMALL ATTACKS. *INTRUSIONS.* DOUBT ANYONE AT THE INDIVIDUAL AGENCIES IS FREAKING OUT, BUT--

TAKEN TOGETHER, THERE'S A PATTERN.

WELL, YEAH, I MEAN, LOOKING AT THE LIST, AND WHO'S UP ON THE PENTHOUSE FLOOR--

YOU SEE, WHILE THEY CAN CLOSE OFF THEIR BORDERS AND TURN AWAY REFUGEES, THERE'S *ONE* THING THEY *CAN'T* STOP THE FLOW OF: *INFORMATION.*

SO THAT IS HOW WE WILL FIGHT BACK.

SEVEN BOMBS--EACH REMOTELY LINKED TO ANOTHER, FAR FROM HERE--SET OFF A VERY DIFFERENT KIND OF CHAIN REACTION. TOGETHER--

--WE WILL *FREE THE WORLD.*

LET'S START HERE, CLOSE TO HOME--WITH THIS SO-CALLED "NO-FLY LIST."

AN ARBITRARY EXERCISE IN PROFILING, WITH NO TRANSPARENCY AND DUE PROCESS. ITS BLATANT PURPOSE IS TO DEPRIVE EQUAL RIGHTS TO THOSE OF A MINORITY CULTURE, YES?

OKAY, SO, GETTING SOME ACTION HERE--WHATEVER WORM THEY STUCK IN THE TSA, IT'S STARTING TO TURN--

HOW BAD?

BUT NOW, AS THE SECONDS COUNT DOWN, WE CAN ERASE THIS ARTIFICIAL LINE THAT DIVIDES US--

HE'S WIPING THE NO-FLY LIST--LOCKING EVERYONE OUT, CORRUPTING THE SOURCE DATA--

CAN YOU STOP HIM?

WELL, I CAN, BUT I SHOULD POINT OUT THAT, IDEOLOGICALLY, I DO FIND THE LIST KINDA IFFY--

RICK.

JUST A FEW MORE TICKS--

FLAG-SMASHER--WAIT--

BOOM!

ALL RIGHT, SO THE BOMBS AREN'T ENTIRELY FOR SHOW.

WHOA.

WHAT?

THE OTHER SIX HITS--THEY'RE LIGHTING UP--

STEVE, IT'S SHARON-- WE'RE WORKING ON THESE DATA BOMBS, CAN YOU--

DEAL WITH THE BOMB-BOMBS?

I LOVE IT WHEN YOU GET TECHNICAL. THIS MEAN WE GET TO START PUNCHING PEOPLE?

LOOKS THAT WAY.

AND FOR A MINUTE, OF COURSE--IT FEELS GOOD

FIGHTING ALONGSIDE **STEVE** AGAIN, WORKING TOGETHER--

--TAKES ME BACK TO THE **OLD DAYS**, OF COURSE--

--NOTHING'S QUITE AS **SIMPLE** AS IT WAS BACK THEN.

JUST THINK OF WHAT WE WILL ACCOMPLISH TOGETHER, CAPTAINS!

SO MANY GOOD WORKS!

ONE BOMB WILL END YOUR COUNTRY'S ELECTRONIC BANKING SANCTIONS AGAINST A NUMBER OF SO-CALLED "ENEMY STATES"!

ONCE AGAIN, COMMERCE WILL FLOW PAST ARTIFICIAL LINES!

STILL ANOTHER WILL RELEASE ALL NSA SURVEILLANCE DATA TO THE PUBLIC.

IN THE NEW WORLD, ALL INFORMATION IS SHARED!

BUT THIS ***NEXT*** BOMB IS THE ONE THAT TRULY EXCITES ME, CAPTAINS-- BECAUSE IT DEALS WITH AN ISSUE NEAR TO MY HEART--

--NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT!

RICK?! THAT IS PROBABLY NOT AS NOBLE AS IT SOUNDS--

HUH. LOOK AT THAT.

RICK!

OH, YEAH, SORRY--

--THIS IS ACTUALLY PRETTY IMPRESSIVE.

"HE'S DECRYPTING NUCLEAR LAUNCH CODES."

CAN YOU SHUT HIM DOWN?

YOU KIDDING? OF COURSE I-- OOH. WAIT.

I MEANT *MAYBE. DEFINITELY* MAYBE.

THIS GUY'S DEFENSES ARE SOLID.

DEVICE INITIALIZING. COUNTDOWN BEGINNING.

TEN...

...NINE...

...EIGHT...

...SEVEN...

...SIX...

...FIVE...

...FOUR...

...THREE...

...TWO...

I GOT IT!

GOOD JOB, RICK--

OPERATION CANCELLED. DEVICE OFFLINE.

-PHEW-

-SIGH- **TRAGIC.** IMAGINE THE **PEACE** WE COULD'VE BROUGHT ABOUT. AH, WELL...

...I SUPPOSE THERE ARE MORE **OLD-FASHIONED** WAYS OF GETTING THE POINT across.

SAM--

I GOT IT!

STEVE AND RICK CAME THROUGH, NOW IT'S **MY** TURN. BUT IT WON'T BE EASY--

CROWDED ROOM-

TRICKY ANGLE

BUT I CAN STILL

--MISS?!

BLAM!

BLAM! BLAM!

NO!

H-HE'S DEAD...

HE'S GONE, SAM. THIS WASN'T YOUR FAULT.

I DISAGREE, CAPTAIN--

TODAY YOU BOTH FAILED OUR PLANET!

STAY HERE, GET THE HOSTAGES CLEAR--

I'LL HANDLE FLAG-SMASHER!

Y-YEAH...

AND JUST LIKE THAT, I FALL LOWER THAN I'VE EVER BEEN BEFORE.

HOW COULD I SCREW UP THAT THROW LIKE THAT? NOW A UNITED STATES SENATOR IS DEAD--

--AND ALL I CAN THINK IS, MAYBE THOSE PROTESTERS ON THE GROUND ARE RIGHT AFTER ALL--

--MAYBE ONLY **ONE** MAN DESERVES TO BE CAPTAIN AMERICA.

AH, HE RETURNS.

IT SOUNDS LIKE THE MISSION WAS QUITE A ***SUCCESS,*** CAPTAIN.

WE ACCOMPLISHED WHAT WE NEEDED TO, DOCTOR SELVIG. HERALD WAS A LOOSE END--IF HE'D EXPOSED MY ROLE IN GETTING U.S.AGENT TO GO AFTER SAM, THINGS COULD'VE...UNRAVELED PREMATURELY.

NOT ONLY ***THAT,*** BUT THE MEDIA IS QUITE EAGERLY PLAYING UP SAM WILSON'S ***FAILURE--***

AFTER WHAT WITNESSES SAY WAS A SEVERELY CARELESS THROW OF THE SHIELD BY ***SAM WILSON--CAPTAIN AMERICA*** *TO SOME--THE NATION IS MOURNING THE LOSS OF ONE OF ITS MOST OUTSPOKEN POLITICAL LEADERS--*

--AND HIS ***KILLER,*** *THE* ***FLAG-SMASHER,*** *EVADED CAPTURE--*

DON'T WORRY--THE LMD RETURNED HOME RIGHT ON SCHEDULE. SLEEPING SOUNDLY.

I DO HAVE TO ***ASK,*** THOUGH--HOW DID YOU KNOW WILSON WOULD MISS HIS TARGET?

SAM'S LEARNED HOW TO USE THAT SHIELD PRETTY WELL, BUT I'VE SPENT HALF A ***LIFETIME*** WITH IT.

"I KNOW THE TRAJECTORY OF EVERY POSSIBLE THROW DOWN TO A ***MILLIMETER--***EVERY BEND AND TURN IT CAN TAKE.

"IT WAS JUST A MATTER OF GETTING HIM INTO POSITION."

WELL PLAYED, THEN, I SUPPOSE. BUT I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND--YOU HAD HIM AT YOUR MERCY, WHY NOT JUST ***KILL*** HIM WHILE YOU HAD THE CHANCE?

KILLING HIM'S THE ***LAST*** THING I WANT TO DO, ERIK. NOT ONLY IS IT UNNECESSARY--IT WOULD INTERFERE WITH OUR PLAN.

RIGHT NOW, THE PUBLIC IS TURNING ON SAM. BUT IF SOME ***TRAGEDY*** BEFELL HIM, TRUST ME--HE'D BECOME A ***MARTYR*** OVERNIGHT.

AND MARTYRS CAN BE MUCH MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE LIVING.

WHEN I WAS... RESTORED, I LET SAM KEEP THE SHIELD BECAUSE I KNEW TAKING IT BACK WOULD SEEM OPPORTUNISTIC. SELFISH.

BUT ALSO BECAUSE I SAW AN OPENING. HE DOESN'T NEED MY HELP COURTING CONTROVERSY AND GETTING MIRED IN THE CORRUPT POLITICS AROUND HIM--

--SO LET THOSE FORCES TEAR HIM APART. LET THEM EXPOSE THEMSELVES FOR WHAT THEY ARE AND SHOW THE LIES ALL OF THIS "FREEDOM" IS BUILT ON.

ONCE THEY DO, HE'LL HAND THAT SHIELD BACK TO ME OF HIS OWN FREE WILL. THEY'LL ***BREAK*** CAPTAIN AMERICA--

"--AND THE COUNTRY WILL BREAK WITH HIM."

Speed Walk 5:42 PM 45%

NEXT

WORLD POLITICS ENTERTAINMENT SPORTS T

VIDEOS PHOTOS SOCIAL MEDIA COMICS GAMES

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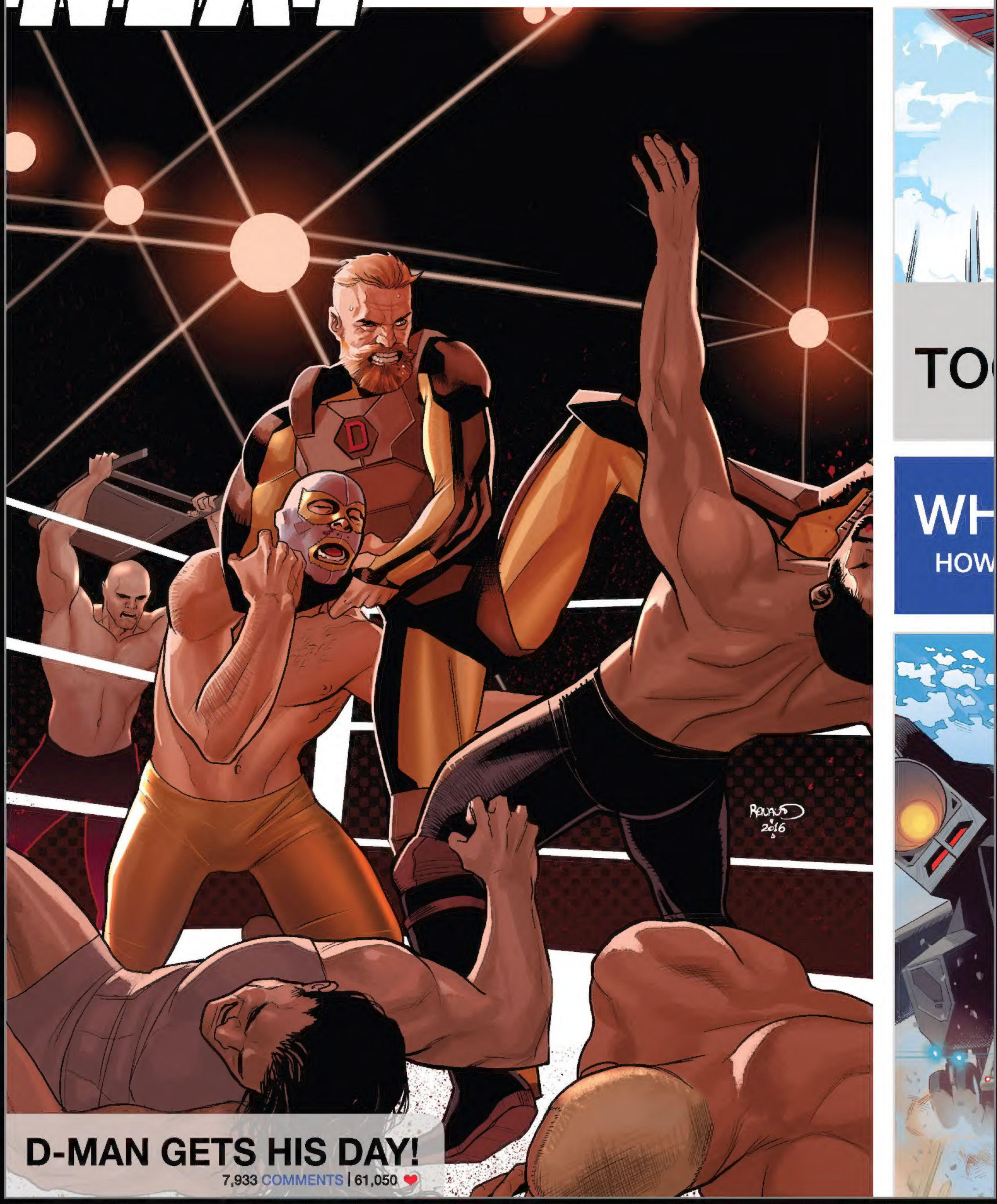

D-MAN GETS HIS DAY!

7,933 COMMENTS | 61,050 ❤

TO

WH

HOW

ZONE